

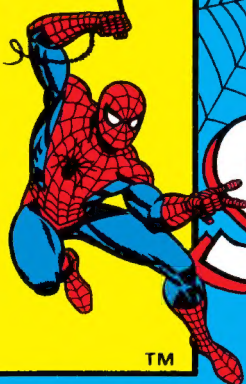
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TM

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



IN MANHATTAN STALKS A MONSTER!

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

LESS THAN A MINUTE AGO, HYDROMAN AND THE DEADLY SANDMAN PLUNGED INTO THE STORM-CHURNED EAST RIVER. SPIDER-MAN HAS BARELY HAD TIME TO BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF WHEN SOMETHING EMERGES FROM THE FETID WATER...

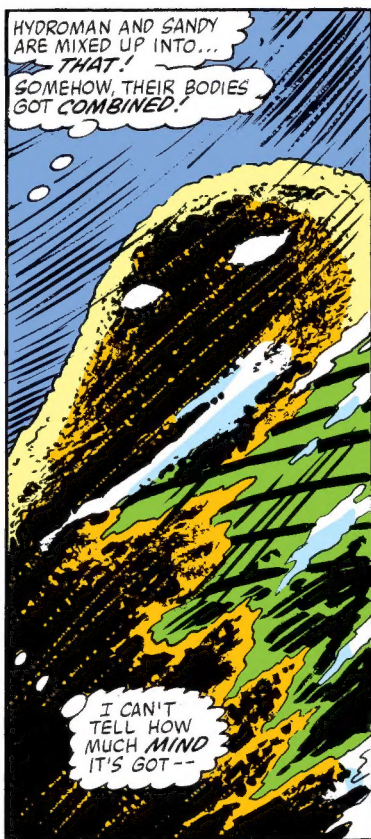
...SOMETHING HUMAN IN FORM ONLY...SOMETHING THAT CHILLS SPIDER-MAN'S VERY THOUGHTS...

I HAVE AN IDEA OF WHAT THAT THING'S GOTTA BE... BUT I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT--!

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER!

DENNY O'NEIL / JOHN ROMITA, JR. / MOONEY+MILGROM / NOVAK, LETTERS / ALLEN MILGROM & JIM SHOOTER
STORY PENCILS INKS BOB SHAREN, COLORS EDITORS



HYDROMAN AND SANDY
ARE MIXED UP INTO...
THAT!
SOMEHOW, THEIR BODIES
GOT COMBINED!

I CAN'T
TELL HOW
MUCH *MIND*
IT'S GOT--



--IF ANY! IT'S JUST
STANDING THERE...
SWAYING!

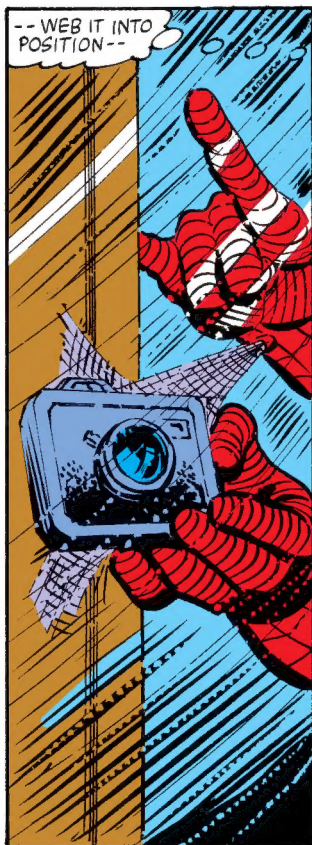
MAYBE
IT WON'T
MOVE AT
ALL--



--BUT I'M BETTING
THAT PRETTY SOON IT'LL
DECIDE TO CONTINUE
POUNING ME.

IF I GOTTA TAKE THE
PUNISHMENT *ANYWAY*,
I MIGHT AS WELL TURN
A DOLLAR.

I'LL UNHOOK
MY TRUSTY CAMERA--



-- WEB IT INTO
POSITION--



--AND HOPE I GET
SOME PIX I CAN
PEDDLE TO THE
BUGLE.

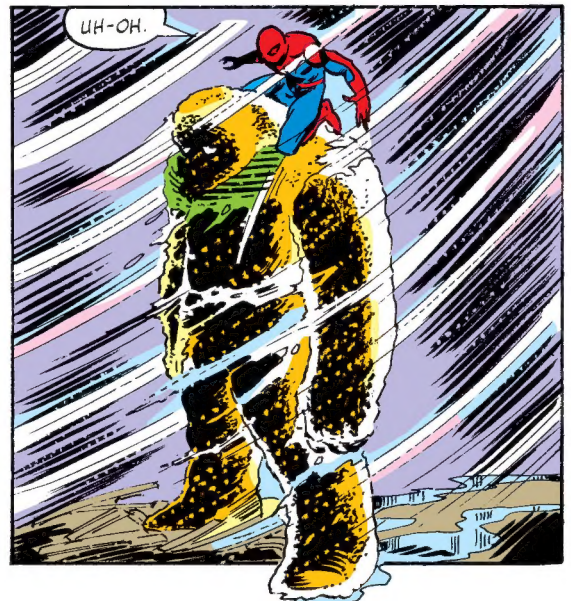
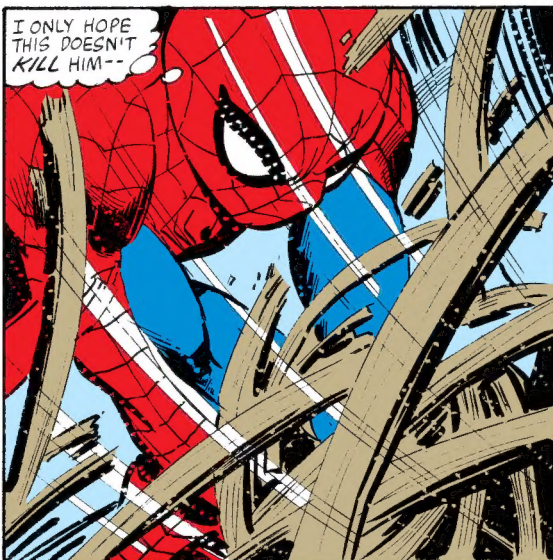
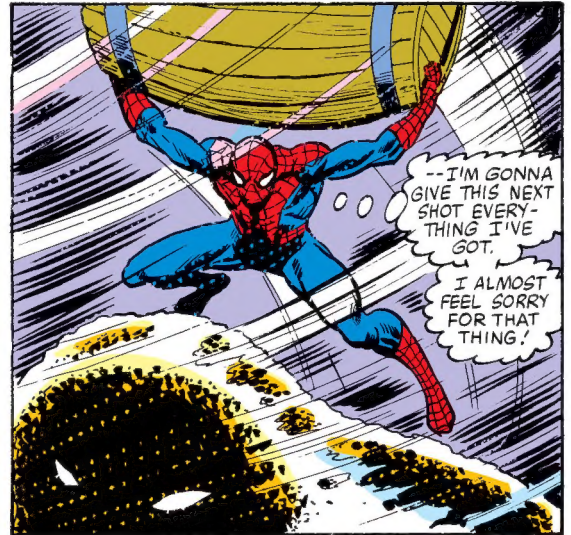
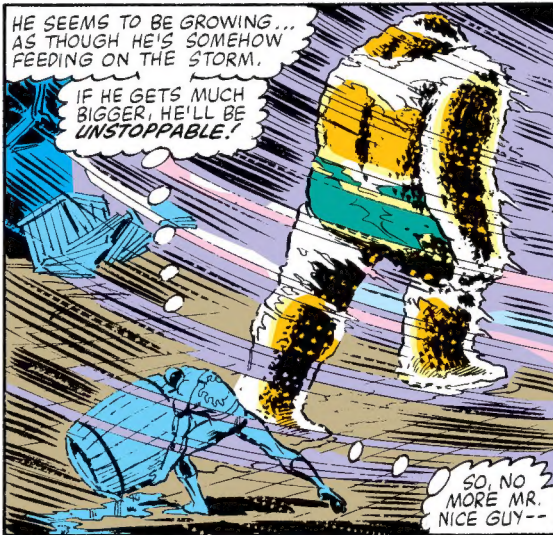
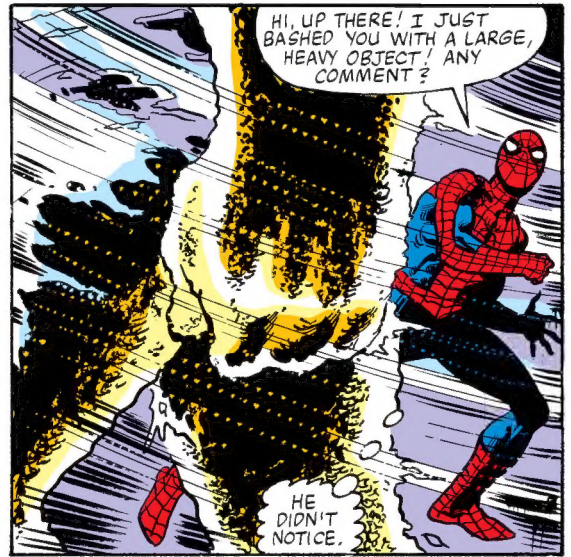
UH-OH... HERE
COMES MY VERY
OWN GIANT,
ECONOMY SIZE,
PACK OF
TROUBLE.

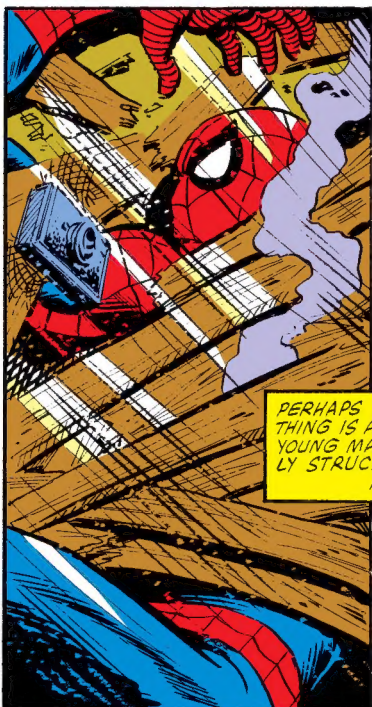
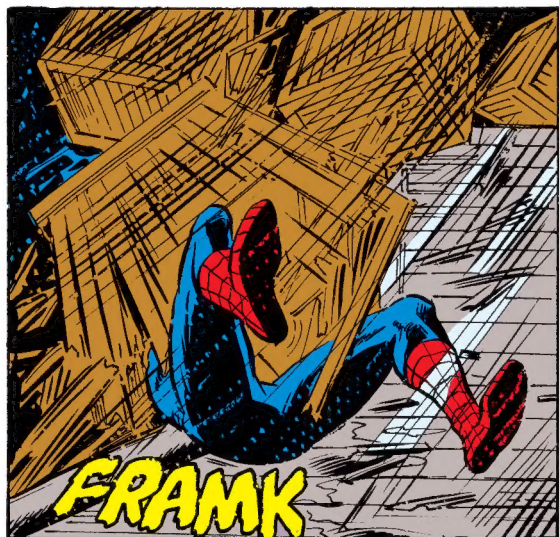
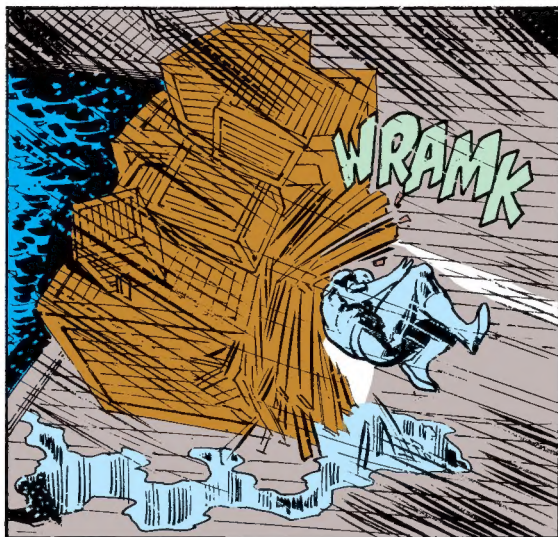
PROBABLY
NOT TO
ASK FOR
MY AUTO-
GRAPH.



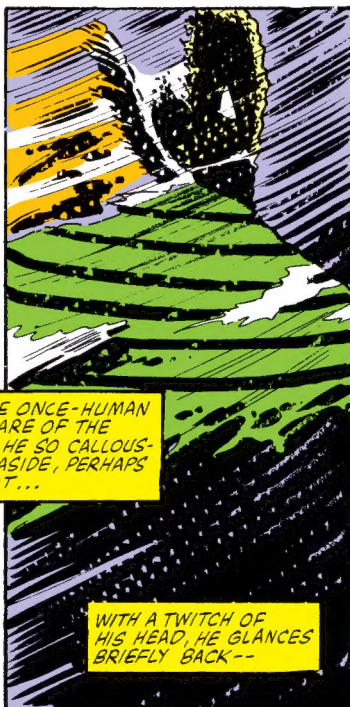
MAYBE I CAN NAIL HIM
BEFORE HE GETS *ME*...
OR AT LEAST
DISCOURAGE HIM.

I DON'T
KNOW IF
THIS IS
QUITE
FAIR--

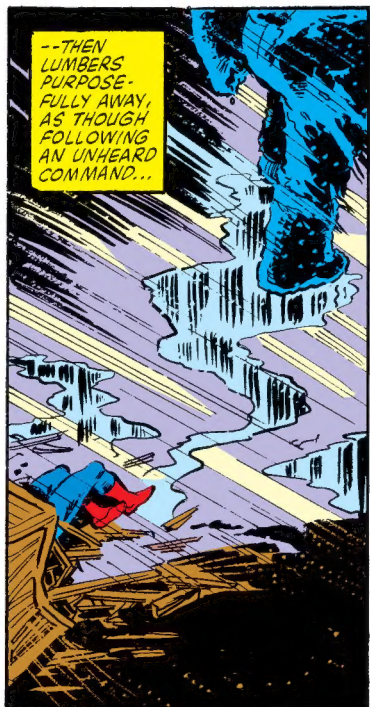




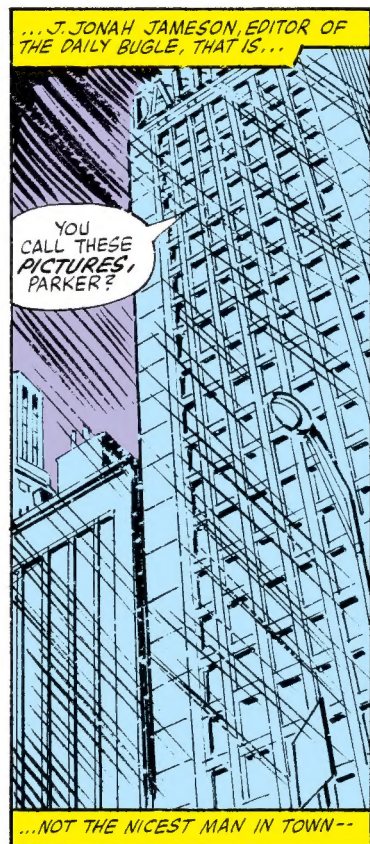
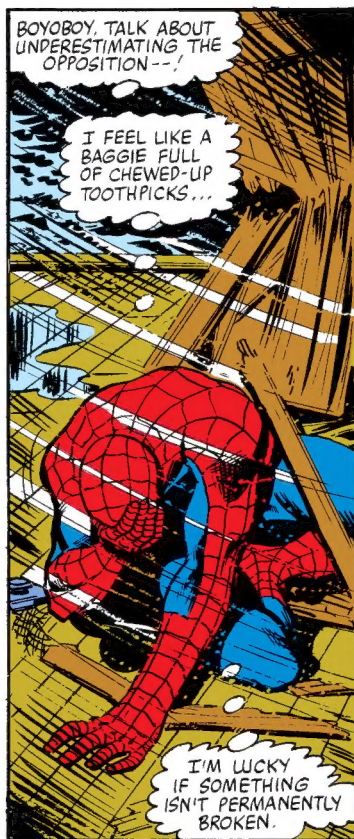
PERHAPS THE ONCE-HUMAN
THING IS AWARE OF THE
YOUNG MAN HE SO CALLOUS-
LY STRUCK ASIDE, PERHAPS
NOT...

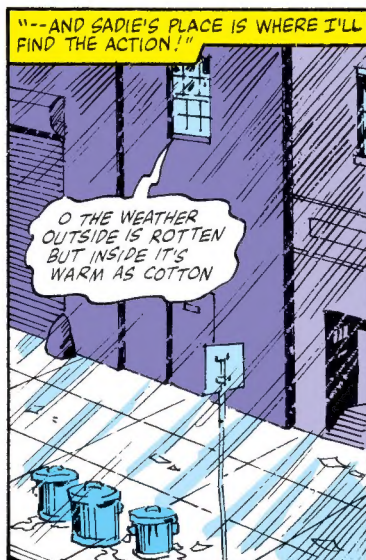


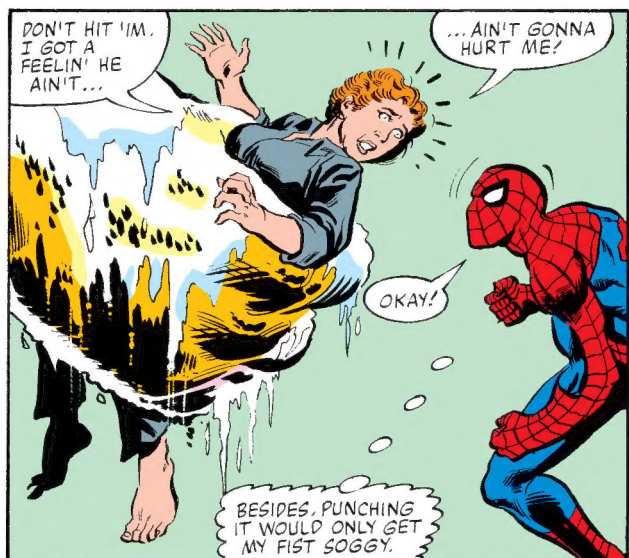
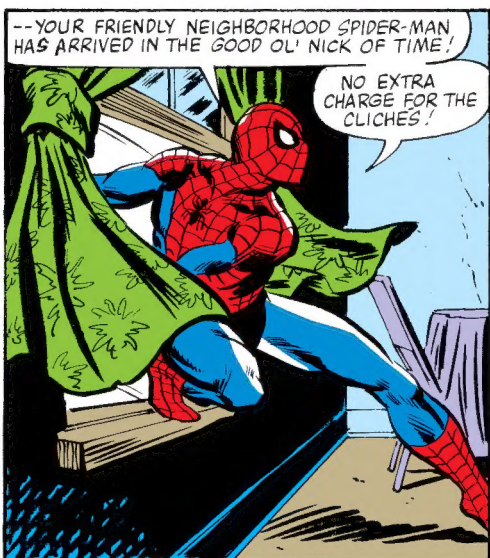
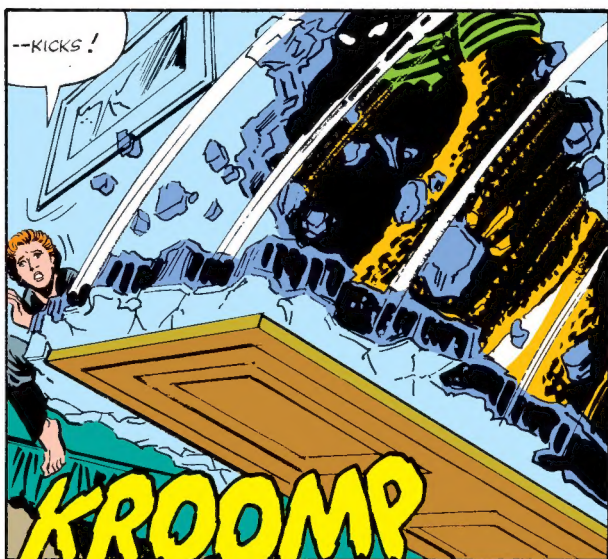
WITH A TWITCH OF
HIS HEAD, HE GLANCES
BRIEFLY BACK--



--THEN
LUMBERS
PURPOSE-
FULLY AWAY,
AS THOUGH
FOLLOWING
AN UNHEARD
COMMAND...

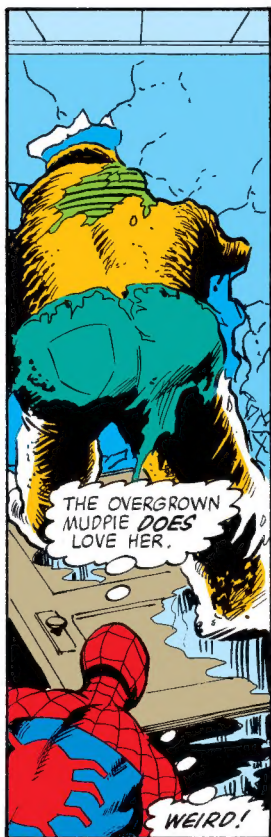








MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT.



THE OVERGROWN MUDDIE DOES LOVE HER.

WEIRD!



LOOKS LIKE THE REST OF THE NEWS BOYS HAVE GOTTEN THE WORD...NOT TO MENTION THE LOCAL SWAT TEAM.

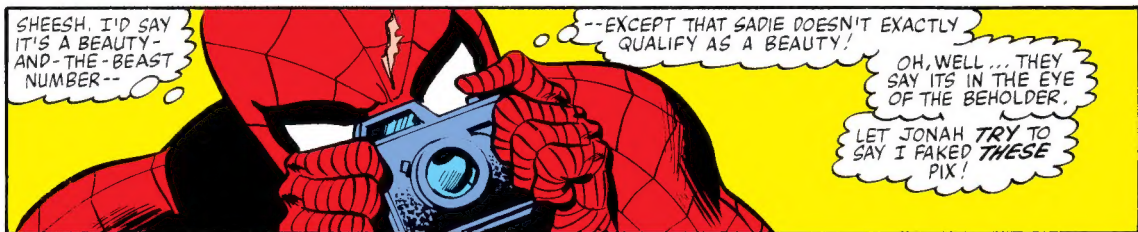
DON'T SHOOT, COPPERS --



--MY... MY FRIEND AIN'T GONNA CAUSE NO HARM...

AT LEAST, I DON'T THINK HE IS.

JUST STAY COOL AND EVERYTHING WILL BE SWELL.

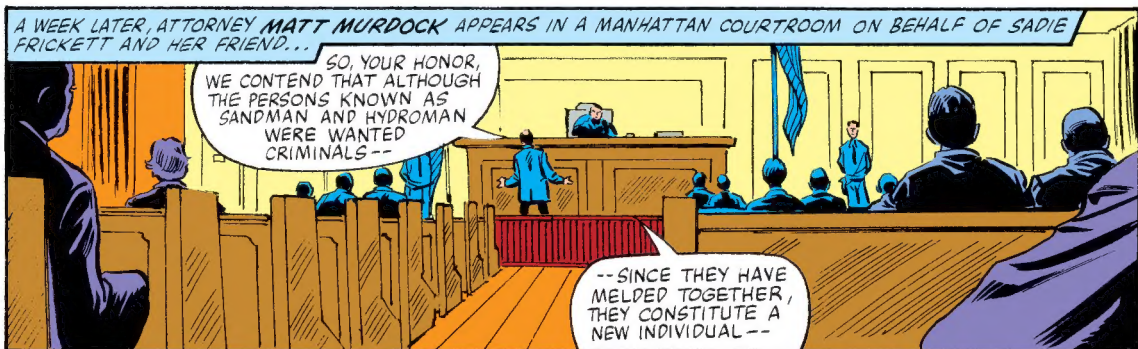


SHEESH. I'D SAY IT'S A BEAUTY-- AND-THE-BEAST NUMBER--

--EXCEPT THAT SADIE DOESN'T EXACTLY QUALIFY AS A BEAUTY!

OH, WELL... THEY SAY ITS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER.

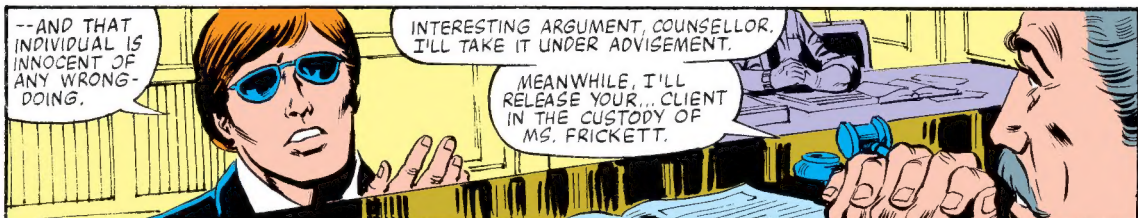
LET JONAH TRY TO SAY I FAKED THESE PIX!



A WEEK LATER, ATTORNEY **MATT MURDOCK** APPEARS IN A MANHATTAN COURTROOM ON BEHALF OF SADIE FRICKETT AND HER FRIEND...

SO, YOUR HONOR, WE CONTEND THAT ALTHOUGH THE PERSONS KNOWN AS SANDMAN AND HYDROMAN WERE WANTED CRIMINALS--

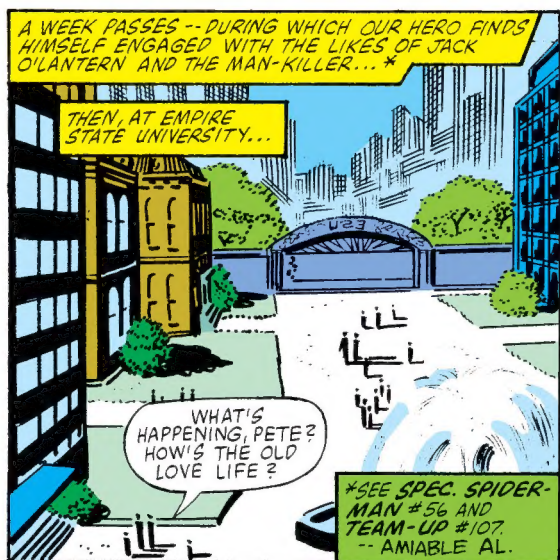
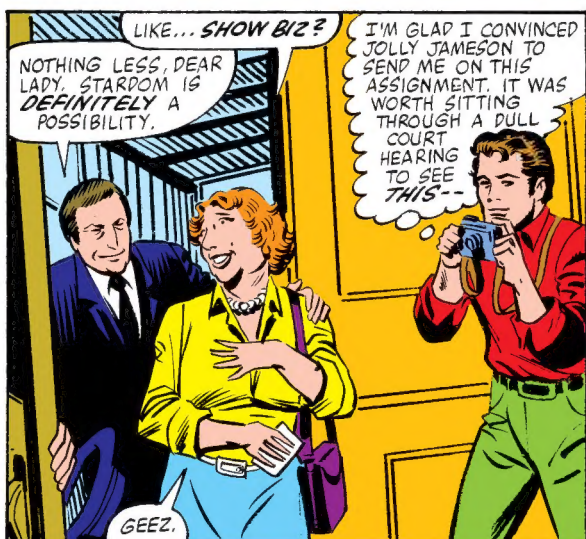
--SINCE THEY HAVE MELDED TOGETHER, THEY CONSTITUTE A NEW INDIVIDUAL--

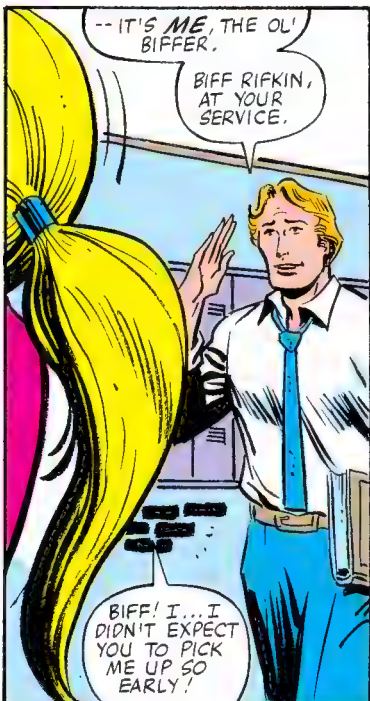
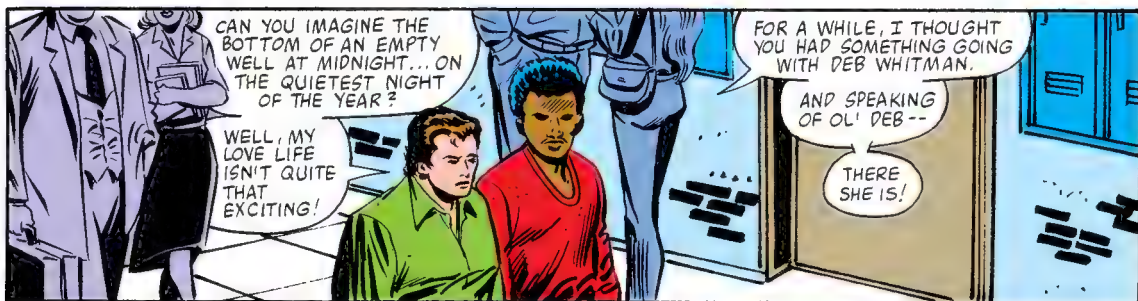


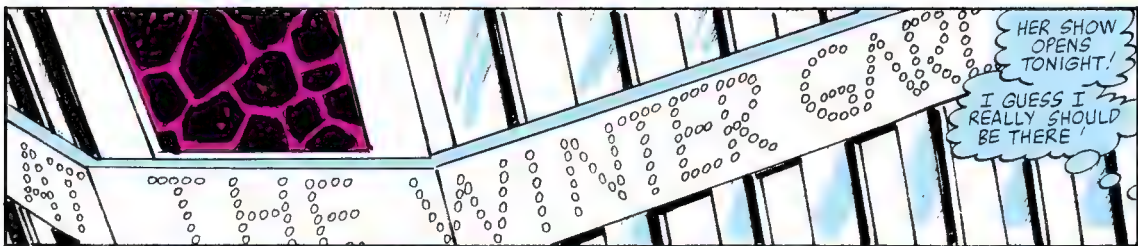
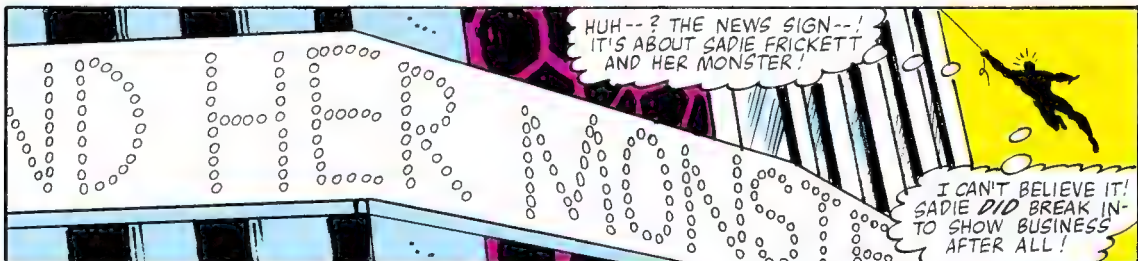
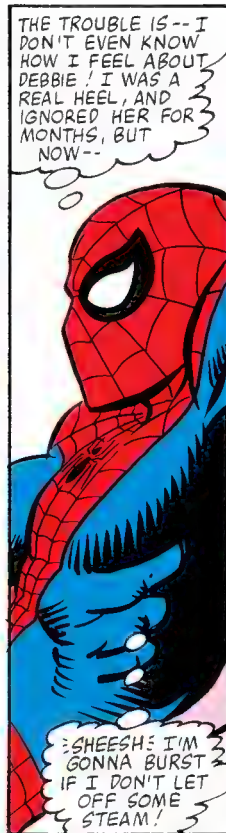
--AND THAT INDIVIDUAL IS INNOCENT OF ANY WRONG-DOING.

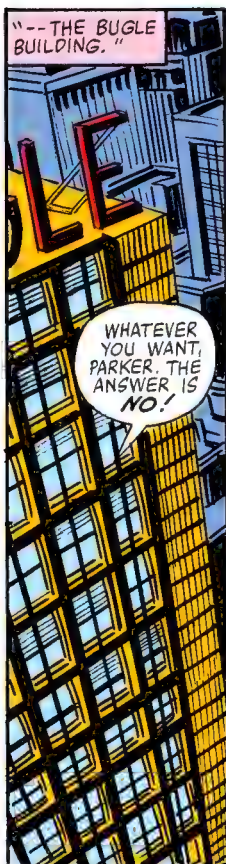
INTERESTING ARGUMENT, COUNSELLOR. I'LL TAKE IT UNDER ADVISEMENT.

MEANWHILE, I'LL RELEASE YOUR... CLIENT IN THE CUSTODY OF MS. FRICKETT.



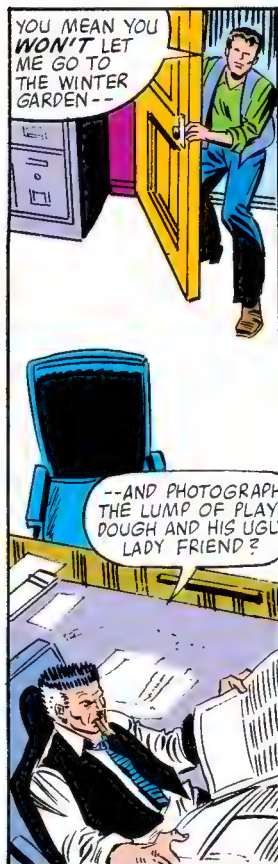






"--THE BUGLE BUILDING."

WHATEVER YOU WANT, PARKER. THE ANSWER IS NO!



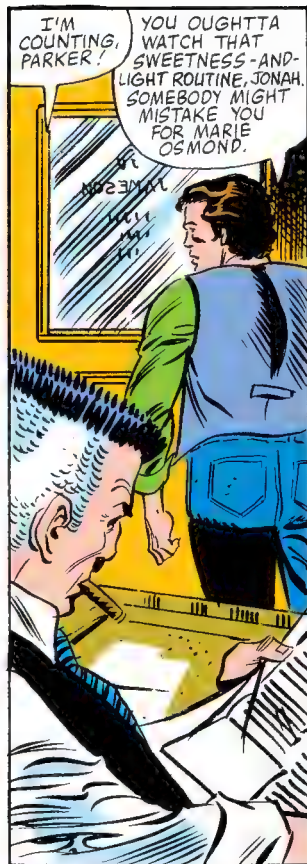
YOU MEAN YOU *WON'T* LET ME GO TO THE WINTER GARDEN--

--AND PHOTOGRAPH THE LUMP OF PLAY DOUGH AND HIS UGLY LADY FRIEND?



YEAH, PARKER, YOU CAN DO THE JOB--PROVIDED THAT YOU DON'T EXPECT ME TO *USE* YOUR PICTURES--

--AND PROVIDED YOU ARE OUT OF MY SIGHT IN TEN SECONDS. I PUBLISH A HIGHCLASS NEWSPAPER --NOT A SECOND-RATE MONSTER MAGAZINE.



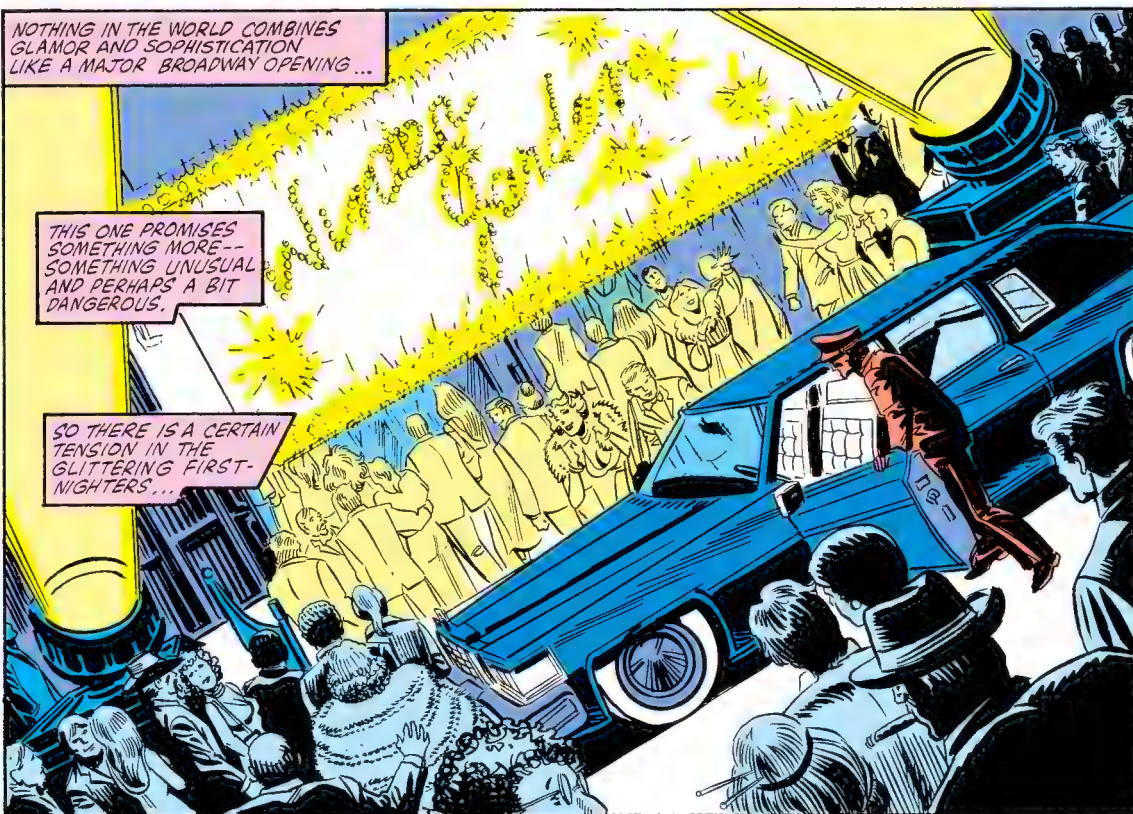
I'M COUNTING, PARKER!

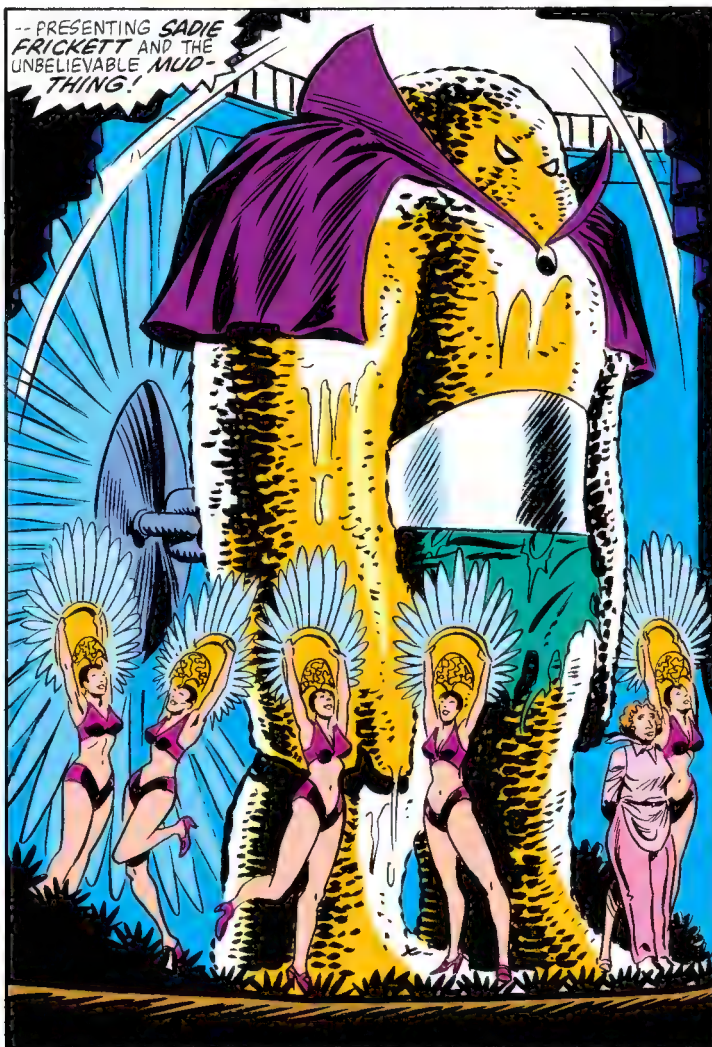
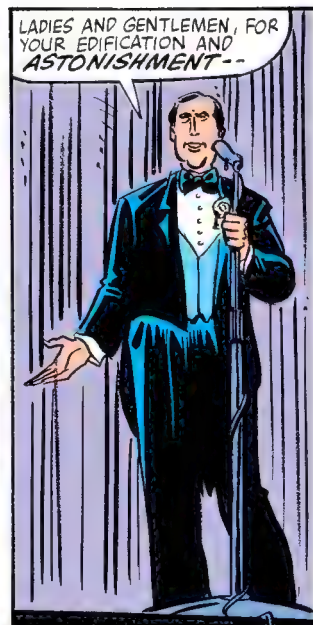
YOU OUGHTTA WATCH THAT SWEETNESS--AND-LIGHT ROUTINE, JONAH. SOMEBODY MIGHT MISTAKE YOU FOR MARIE OSMOND.

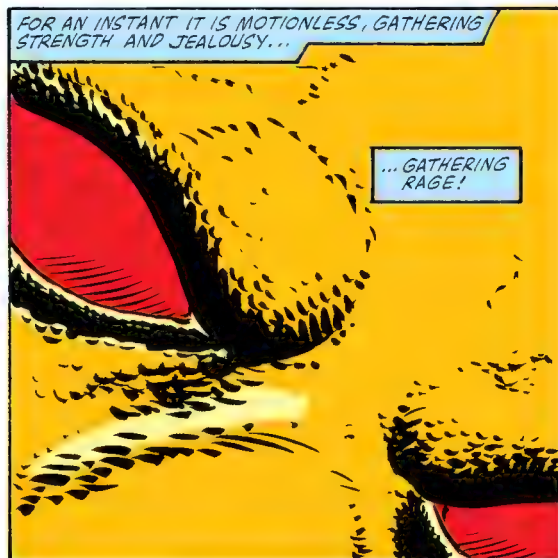
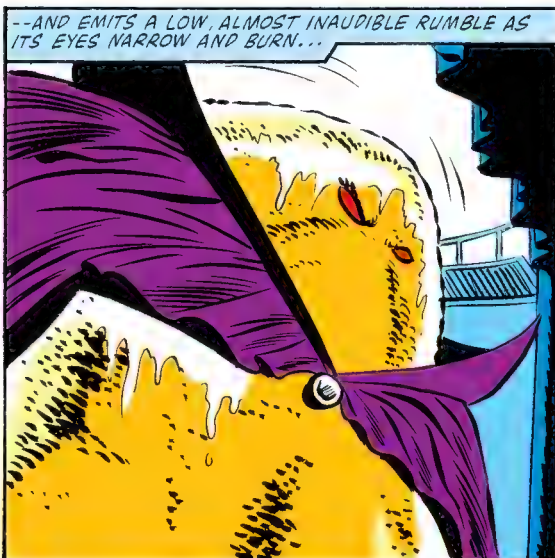
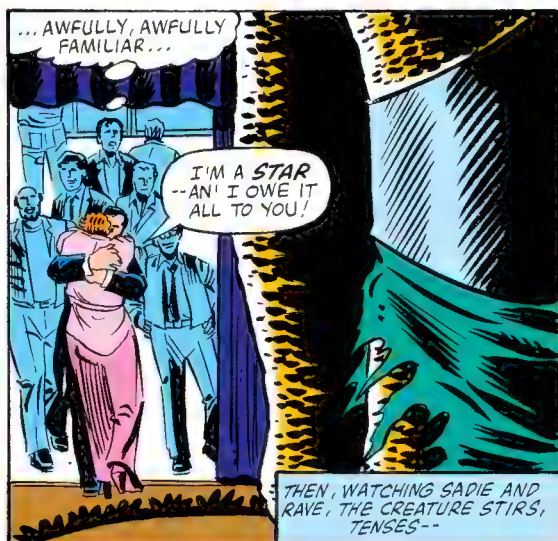
NOTHING IN THE WORLD COMBINES GLAMOR AND SOPHISTICATION LIKE A MAJOR BROADWAY OPENING...

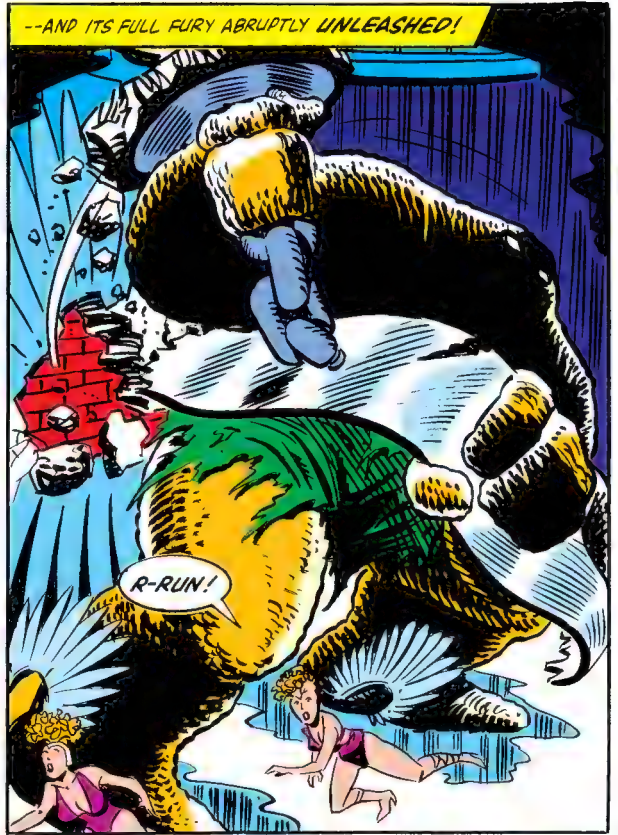
THIS ONE PROMISES SOMETHING MORE--SOMETHING UNUSUAL AND PERHAPS A BIT DANGEROUS.

SO THERE IS A CERTAIN TENSION IN THE GLITTERING FIRST-NIGHTERS...





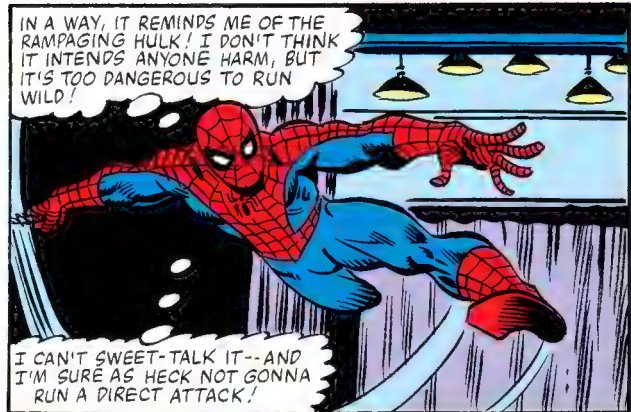






WHOA! I DON'T THINK THIS IS WHAT PEOPLE MEAN WHEN THEY SAY AN ACT IS "BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE."

THE MUD-THING SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THE **REASON** FOR ITS ANGER. IT'S JUST **MAD--AND NASTY.**



IN A WAY, IT REMINDS ME OF THE RAMPAGING HULK! I DON'T THINK IT INTENDS ANYONE HARM, BUT IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO RUN WILD!

I CAN'T SWEET-TALK IT--AND I'M SURE AS HECK NOT GONNA RUN A DIRECT ATTACK!



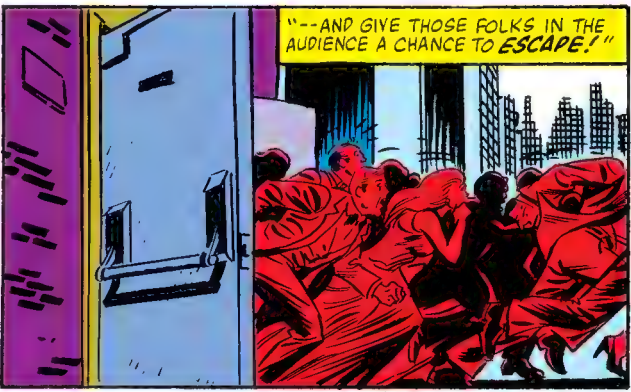
SNAP

IT'D SHOVE MY WEBBING UP MY NOSE --OR WORSE!

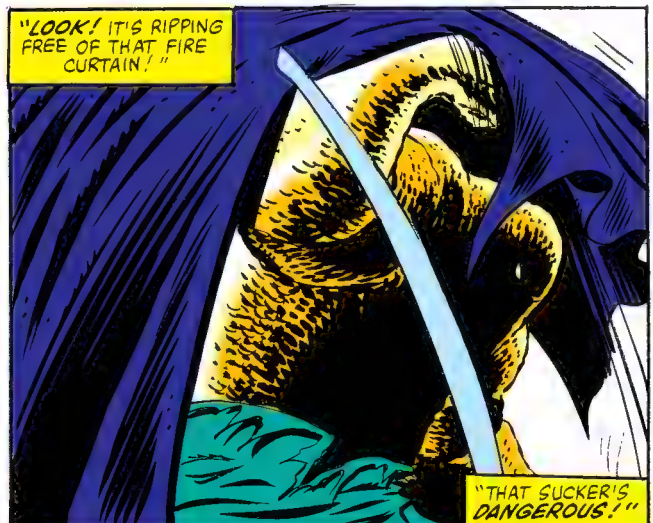
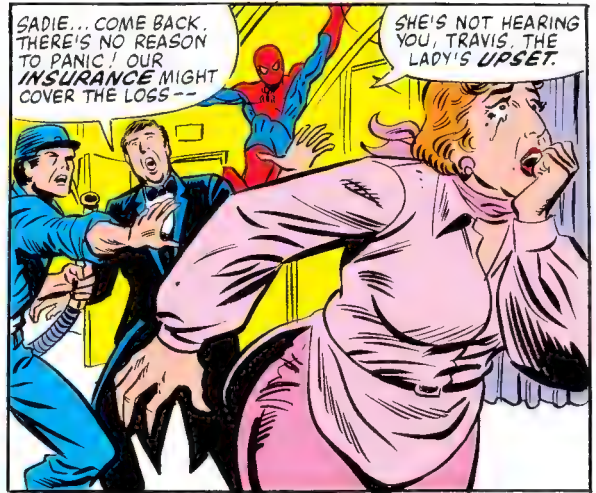
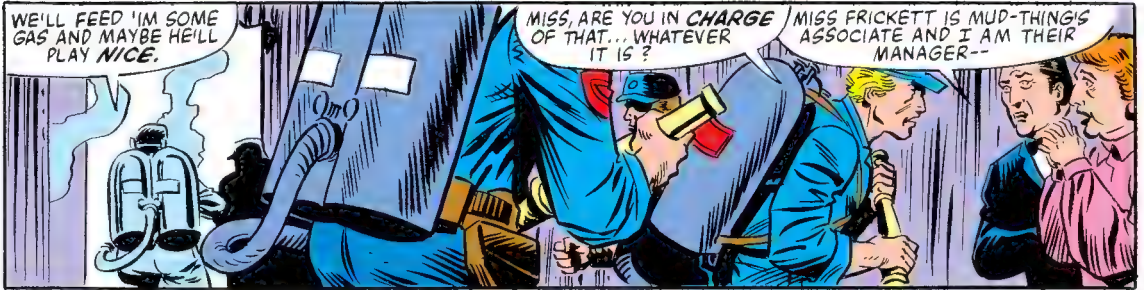
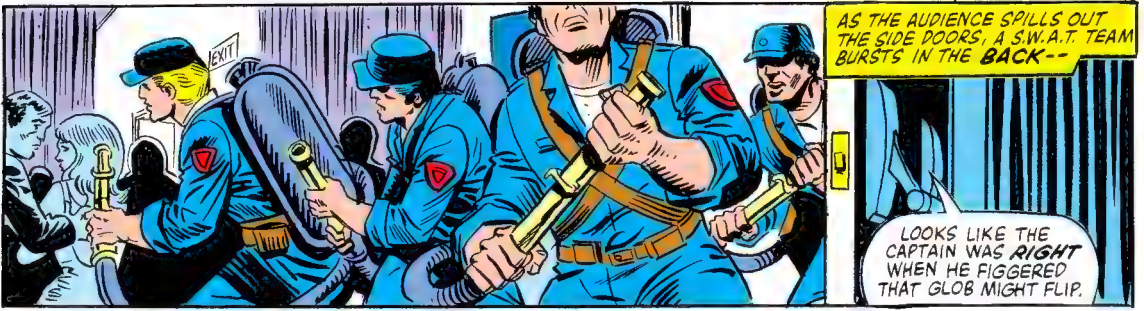
I NEED A LITTLE HELP--IN THE FORM OF A FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD FIRE CURTAIN--



AT LEAST THIS'LL SLOW IT DOWN--



"--AND GIVE THOSE FOLKS IN THE AUDIENCE A CHANCE TO **ESCAPE!**"



DANGEROUS? TO ANYONE EXCEPT, PERHAPS, SADIE FRICKETT...

LISSEN, SWEETIE, YA GOTTA SCRAM OUTTA HERE.

IT TWITCHES IN RECOGNITION OF SADIE'S VOICE, TURNS, AND WITH INFINITE GENTLENESS--

--LIFTS HER, AS...

SADIE... TRY TO WRIGGLE LOOSE--!

I DON'T WANNA GET LOOSE.

HIT IT, GUYS!

IT SENSES THAT THIS GAS, DEVELOPED IN VIET NAM, COULD DRY ITS TISSUES, AND WITHER IT TO NOTHINGNESS--

CH-DOHM!

--SO IT SEEKS FREEDOM...

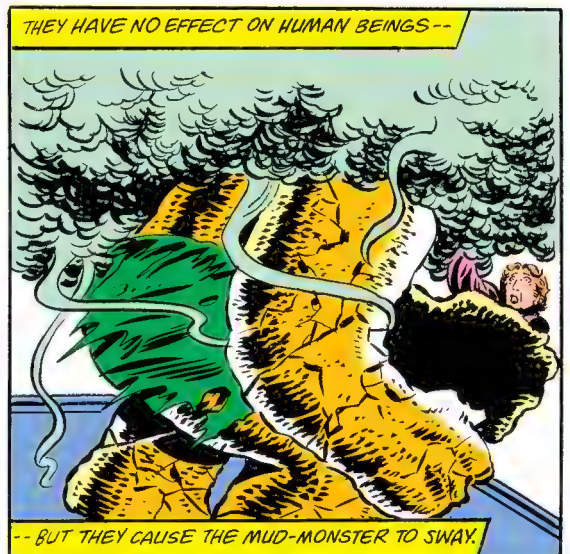
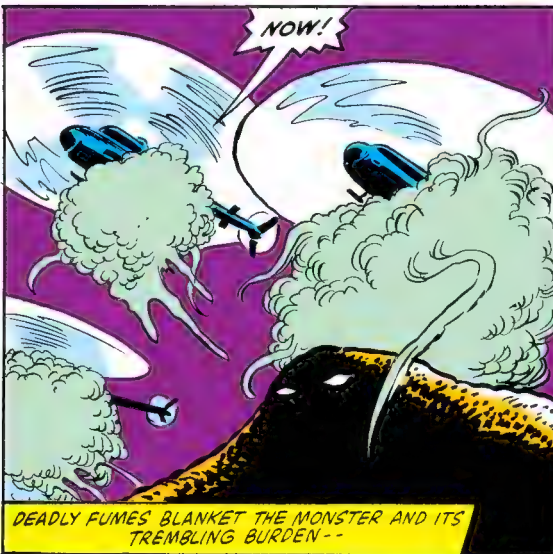
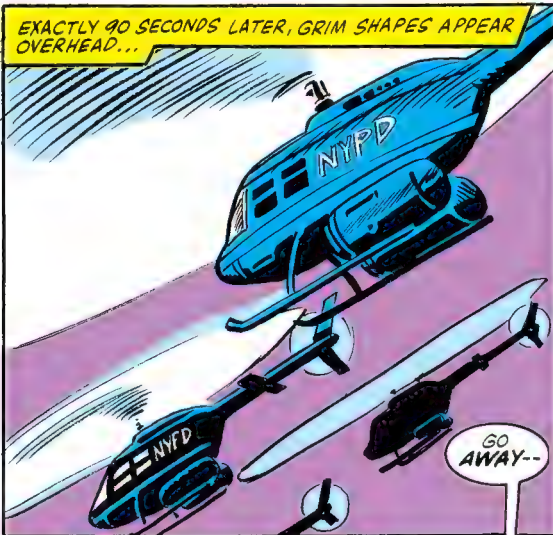
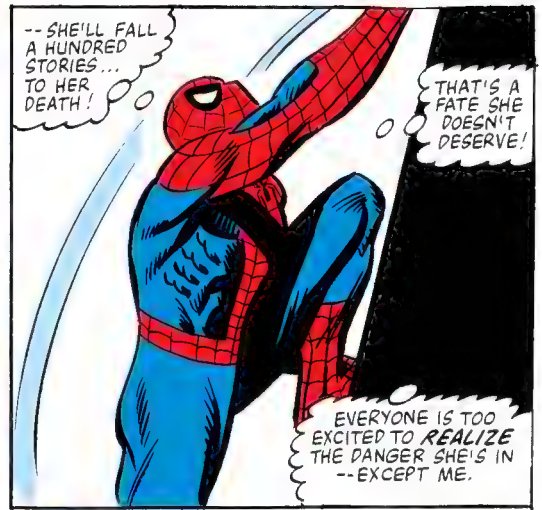
THE THING'S CLIMBING THAT BUILDING!

SOMEBODY TELL THE COPS--

NO! THE COPS OUGHTTA BACK OFF--

--MY FRIEND AIN'T GONNA HURT NOBODY.

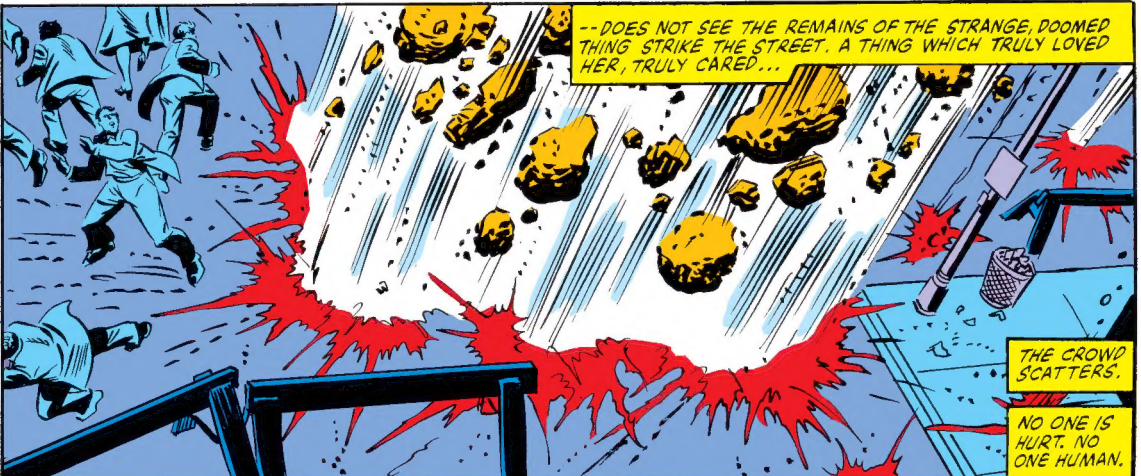
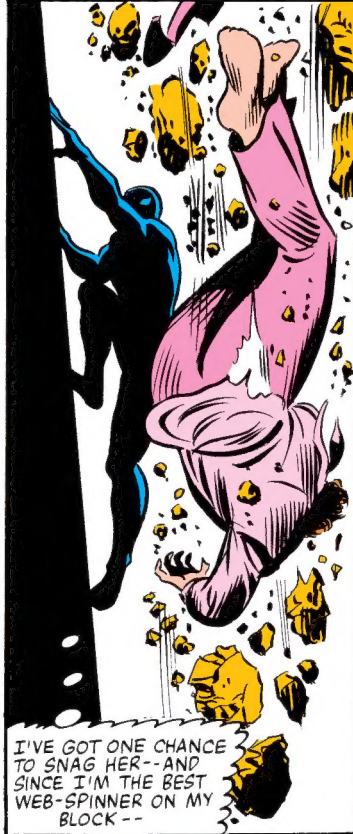
BUT SADIE'S WORDS ARE LOST IN THE WHISTLE OF THE WIND AS SHE IS BORNE HIGH ABOVE THE PAVEMENT...

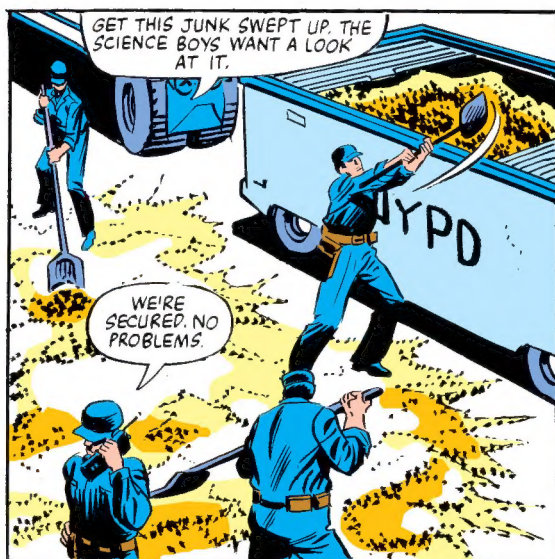
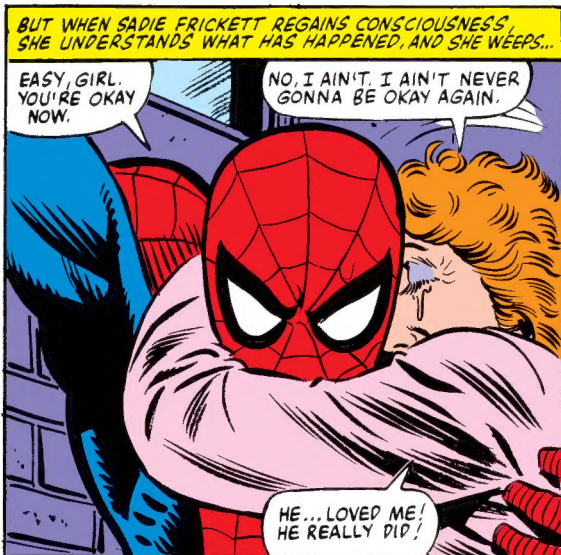


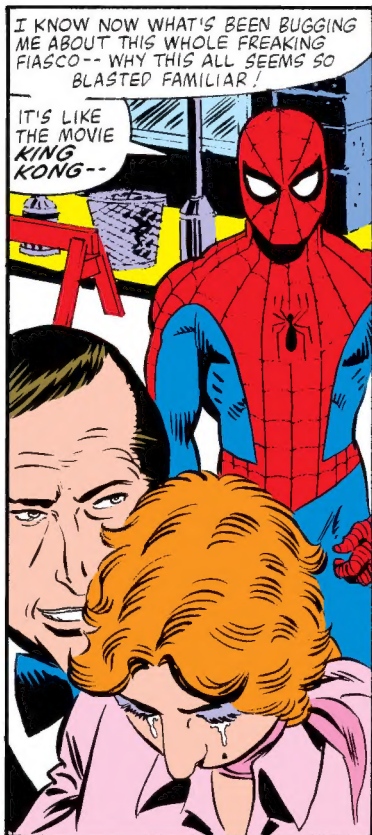
THEN, THE MOISTURE BINDING THE CREATURE'S TISSUES TOGETHER IS SUCKED INTO THE NIGHT BY THE GAS, AND THOSE TISSUES CRUMBLE AND PART--



THE FRAGMENTS HURTLE DOWNWARD, ALONG WITH A WOMAN TOO FRIGHTENED TO SCREAM...







I KNOW NOW WHAT'S BEEN BUGGING ME ABOUT THIS WHOLE FREAKING FIASCO-- WHY THIS ALL SEEMS SO BLASTED FAMILIAR!

IT'S LIKE THE MOVIE **KING KONG**--



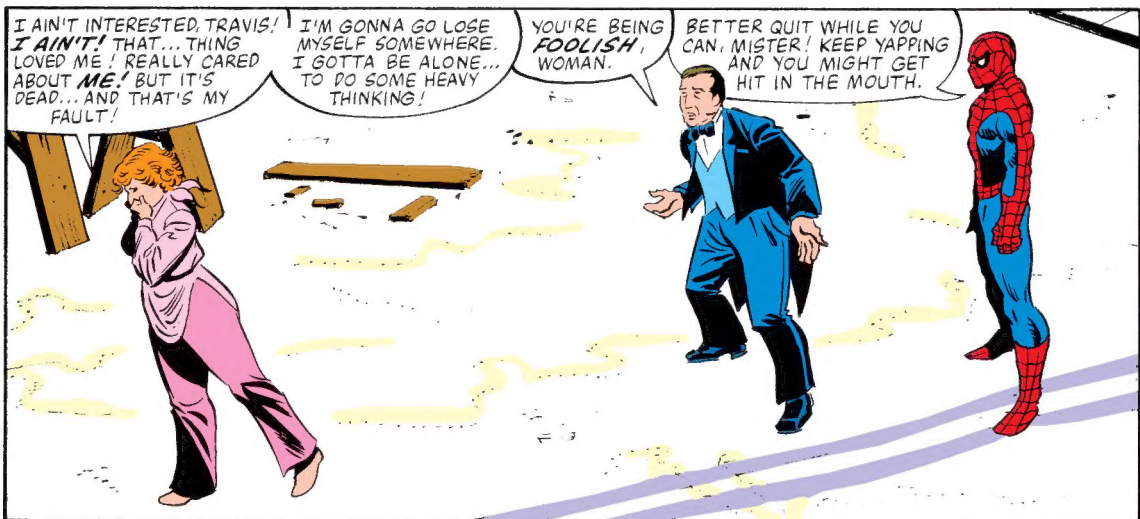
YOUNG MAN! DON'T YOU **DARE** SPEAK OF FILMS-- NOT UNTIL I'VE MADE A **DEAL**.

I'VE ALREADY SPOKEN TO A CONTACT IN HOLLYWOOD AND A SCREEN VERSION OF SADIE'S STORY IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY -- BUT I WANT A SIGNED CONTRACT BEFORE YOU OR ANYONE ELSE BLATHERS ABOUT IT.



I FORESEE YET ANOTHER **HAND-SOME PROFIT** FOR US, MY SWEET!

YA TALKIN' **MONEY**--?



I AIN'T INTERESTED, TRAVIS! **I AIN'T!** THAT... THING LOVED ME! REALLY CARED ABOUT **ME**! BUT IT'S DEAD... AND THAT'S MY FAULT!

I'M GONNA GO LOSE MYSELF SOMEWHERE. I GOTTA BE ALONE... TO DO SOME HEAVY THINKING!

YOU'RE BEING **FOOLISH**, WOMAN.

BETTER QUIT WHILE YOU CAN, MISTER! KEEP YAPPING AND YOU MIGHT GET HIT IN THE MOUTH.



HOW DID **KING KONG** END? THE GUY SAID SOMETHING LIKE, "IT WAS BEAUTY KILLED THE BEAST."

WHAT HE FORGOT TO MENTION WAS THAT BEAUTY DIDN'T DO TOO WELL, EITHER.

END.



Shadowcat

